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the war either stood still, or what was worse went back. The repentance of Strongbow was immediate, and his concession complete.

It will be remembered that on the death of Dermot Mac Murrough, King of Leinster, in 1171, his extensive territory became the property of Earl Strongbow, really by force of arms, though nominally, by virtue of his marriage with Eva, that prince's only legitimate child.

The lands of England were not more liberally distributed on the Norman conquest, than were those of Ireland on the success of the Anglo-Norman enterprise. What the Duke of Normandy was in 1066, such was the Earl of Pembroke in 1170, and his followers as largely participated in the success of his adventure, as did those who attended the Duke of Normandy into England. The possession of extensive districts rewarded these military chieftains, and from such splendid acquisitions the services of their own subordinate adherents were also largely recompensed. Among those princely grants was that of Grace's country to Raymond le Gros. This consisted of a vast tract of land, comprehending, it is said, the barony of Cranagh, and extending northwards by the liberties of Kilkenny and the river Nore, to the borders of the Queen's County; and thence southwards along the borders of Tipperary and the Munster river to the liberties of Callan: forming a district between eleven and twelve miles in length, and between five and six in breadth. The central situation of Tullaroan, in the district of Grace's country, naturally occasioned the selection of that place for the chief castle of the territorial lords; some of whom we find styled Baron of Tullaroan, as well as Baron Grace and Baron of Courtstown.

Raymond le Gros first landed in Ireland the 11th of May, 1170, but he returned to Wales in 1173, to take possession of the lands that devolved to him on his father's death; whence he shortly after hastened back to Ireland with 80 leaders of his own kindred, 100 horsemen, and 300 archers, to the assistance of Strongbow, whose sister he at this time married at Wexford, and obtained a great portion of land with her in dowry, as well as the distinguished civil and military offices of constable and standard-bearer of Leinster. On the demise of Earl Strongbow, 22 Henry II. (1176) he was appointed sole governor of Ireland. When Basilia wrote to inform her husband that her brother was dead, she, fearing lest her letter might be intercepted, used this expression, "the great tooth which has been so long ailing has at length fallen out!"

We have been unable to ascertain on what authority 1184, is stated as the period of this distinguished chieftain's death, but an entry in the archives of the Abbey of St. Thomas, in Dublin, distinctly proves it to have been previous to 1201. His eldest son, William Fitz Raymond, as we have before mentioned, retained the patronymic of le Gros, the usual mark of primogeniture at this period, and succeeded to all the lands Raymond had inherited in Wales and England, as well as to those he had acquired in Leinster.

The English conquerors necessarily maintained their dominion by the iron hand of coercion; and the protection of their domains, and the subjugation of the natives, equally obliged them to erect strongly fortified castles. The situation of Grace's country, continually exposed to the attacks of its restless neighbours the Fitzpatricks, the O' Mores, and the Mac Murroughs, justified, on the principle of self-defence, the many frontier castles of its military chieftains, though indeed this legitimate object was often abandoned for motives of predatory warfare, and feudal aggression. Though we are unable to fix a precise date to the building of this castle of Tullaroan, or Courtstown, we may be allowed to conjecture that it was nearly coeval with Grace's castle, in Kilkenny, erected by William le Gros, before the 11th of John, (1210); it is however obvious, from the architecture, that different parts of the building have been the work of different periods. A tradition prevails, that the castles of Tullaroan and Courtstown were distinct structures, and that the former having been destroyed in a hostile irruption of the Irish, the latter was erected on a different site. The ruins of this edifice evinced considerable grandeur, as well as great strength. They exhibited the spirit of a powerful chief-

tain, and the taste of a feudal age. Courtstown Castle consisted of an outward ballium or envelope, having a round tower at each angle, and also at each side of an embattled entrance to the south, which was further defended by a portcullis. Within this area, or outward court, comprehending about an acre of ground, stood the body of the castle, enclosing an inner court of an oblong form. A massive quadrangular tower or keep, projected from the centre of the south front, directly opposite to the embattled entrance of the exterior area above-mentioned. The walls of this tower were of considerable thickness, and the rests and fire-places within showed it to have originally admitted five floors. From the sides of this great square tower, two wings extended, which terminated on the east and west with round towers. The east front consequently exhibited on its southern angle, one of these round towers, and further northwards stood a similar tower, flanking a portal which led into the inner court, formerly furnished with a portcullis. Between this and the last flanking round tower and a square tower at the northern angle, was a spacious room or hall, of an oblong shape, occupying the entire space. The north front consisted of a high embattled wall, connecting two square towers, and enclosing the inner area on that side. The western front externally corresponded with the eastern. There is said to have been a communication round the buildings of the inner court, by a gallery, and in the centre of it the traces of a draw well are still visible, as are also the vestiges, beyond the outside walls, of the bowling-green, cock-pit, fish-ponds, &c. Some mounds of earth to the south of the castle, called bow-butts, are likewise visible, and are reported by tradition to have been the place where the followers were exercised in the practice of archery.

Though deprived of the "pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war," Courtstown Castle long continued to possess great dignity of appearance, from the extent of its area, the height and massive thickness of its walls, the picturesque and skilful disposition of its towers, the embattled gateway, and works of circumvallation by which it was defended. Such were the characteristic features of this baronial edifice about the year 1760, and after abundantly supplying, for above a century, materials for all the neighbouring structures, and for repairing the roads, &c. its foundations are now beginning to be rooted up, and

"Broke by the share of every rustic plough;
So perish monuments of mortal birth,
So perish all in turn, save well-recorded worth."

The fate of the Grace family has been but little less unfortunate than that of their ancient fortress—but we must reserve their history to a future number.

S.

CHANGEABLENESS OF THE HUMAN BODY.

Few persons form any conception of the varied phenomena which are continually going forward in their own bodies during their progress from birth to decay. The surprising machinery of the human frame is carried on in profound silence, and its workings are little attended to. The mind which reigns over and animates it, often soars into distant worlds in search of knowledge, and neglecting, by an extraordinary oversight, to look into its own domain, continues ignorant of the surpassing wonders that are hidden therein.

We have long lamented this great oversight, and shall endeavour by the influence of our little Journal to direct the thoughts of our young readers inwardly to themselves, and show them "how fearfully, and yet how wonderfully are they made."

The ingredients of which the frame is composed are continually changing; the old being cast away, as extraneous matter, and new ones of the same kind consentaneously built up in their place. During the whole life time there is no interruption to this shifting, though the rapidity with which it goes on may, under different circumstances, vary; and consequently at no two periods—

not even days—of a man's existence, are the materials of his body identically the same. None of the particles of which an infant is constituted at the moment of birth make part of its body a few years afterwards, though all its lineaments retain their distinctive characters, and the resemblance to its parents is perpetuated in its growth; neither is the body of the full grown man, literally speaking, the same in substance as that which when a youth he was made of; nor are any of the elements composing the decrepid frame of a man of seventy such as gave him form during that vigorous period of life when he could have counted only thirty or forty birth days: all have been changed several times over before arrival at such an age.

This insensible, interstitial transformation of the old into a new body, if we may use such an expression, may be seen in many instances with which we are conversant. In the simple every day operation of paring the nails an observer of nature will see a demonstration of the process, the nail remains always of the same shape, but there is an unceasing change going forward among its particles—new ones being deposited from the quick, and the old thrown off at the most projecting part: five or six weeks is about the period occupied in effecting the complete renovation of a nail.

The growth of the hair is a process of the same nature, and the quantity cast off from the head alone, during an ordinary life time would perhaps, if preserved, nearly equal in weight the whole individual! From what source was all this derived but out of the often renewed materials of the body?

All the world knows of the changes which the teeth pass through in the different periods of life—that at birth there are none to be seen—that bye and bye they present themselves—then again disappear, to be replaced by another set, which are themselves in turn frequently cast away before the termination of a natural life; and yet few persons, even those most apt to pry into the causes of passing events, ever think of enquiring, why or how do those changes come about? They manifestly take place in accommodation of the stationary characters of teeth, as regards size, with the varying dimensions of the jaw bones at different ages. The teeth, in consequence of the crystalline enamel which encrusts their exterior have not a power of enlargement like the other bones of the body, and consequently those which are suited to the capacity of the mouth of a child would be ill adapted to the enlarged jaws of an adult: they are then thrown off and new ones of an appropriate size generated. The shedding of the teeth in old age arises from a different cause and is followed by a very different result. The teeth like their possessor become old and infirm; the circulation of blood in them is obstructed by a clogging up of the holes in their fangs, through which the nutritious vessels find an entrance; and they undergo a premature death. In this state, no longer acting in reciprocity with the living parts about them, they are loosened and ejected from the mouth.

But it is more on account of the phenomena which attend the occurrence of these changes, than in explanation of the causes which render them necessary that they are here spoken of, illustrating, as they do, the mutability of the particles of our body which are ever coming and going, but nevertheless always perfect and suited to the purposes they are designed for, unless disease or accident deranges them.

It may be here stated as a fact bearing on the same point, and one also of great interest in medicine, that from a cause like that which destroys the vitality of the tooth of an old man; viz. interruption to the necessary supply of blood, one of the longest bones in the body may be subjected to the same fate, (as in the disease called necrosis) but not with so hopeless an issue; for by the powers of separation and reproduction, called into double activity under such urgent circumstances, the old bone may be got rid of, and a new one in every respect like to the original—complete and useful—be constructed.

A person in a good state of health contracts a fever, during the progress of which he becomes thin and emaciated—but afterwards on regaining his health grows equally corpulent as before, and re-acquires the same exterior form. What has taken place here? Evidently that a

large proportion, perhaps one half of the materials of the body—solids as well as fluids—were lost during the illness; and that afterwards, in the convalescence, fresh ones, derived from the food, were reproduced to the same amount—taking on a similar form and becoming competent to the same functions as those whose places they fell into. In such a case, it is undeniable that a proportion of the constituents of the body—equivalent to the weight regained during the convalescence—consisted exclusively of recently acquired materials.

There are even organs in the interior of the body peculiar to infancy, which becoming useless as the circumstances of life alter, are picked out (absorbed) from the interstices of the parts in which they lay, and never after deposited: and on the other hand the full grown body becomes possessed of structures which were either previously rudimental, and almost invisible, or had no existence at all in an earlier age; establishing still further the fact—that though *master B.* may live so long as to deserve the title of *master B.* he will on arriving at that age be a very different person.

There is a friend of ours who is not well disposed to believe that *his person* which he and many others have seen and known to be the same for nearly 50 years, can have undergone such changes without evincing more *external evidences* of them. He states also, that on one of his limbs there has been a scar, as long almost as he can remember—and triumphantly asks, if he has been so often changed why has not this mark disappeared with the other bye gone elements of his frame? As well might our friend ask the same question respecting any other part of his body on which he might chose to lay his finger—an eye—an ear—or even a limb. The subtraction and addition of materials of which we have been speaking have no tendency to produce annihilation or confusion among the different parts of the body. Every organ and tissue while it retains life, and serves a useful purpose in the body, is endowed with a peculiar formative power, by which it perpetuates its existence, and converts into its own nature the elements of supply brought to it by the blood. There is no danger that an eye or an ear shall, while not deranged by accident, either cease to be nourished, or set about converting its share of nutritious matter into any thing but its own proper textures. And so it is with a cicatrix: when once established it stands in precisely the same relation to the body as any of the more original organs. It has become a distinct structure, and is of use in binding together parts which without it would be disjoined. It therefore stands equally entitled to all those powers by which its existence may be secured; and our friend would feel inconvenience if his were to be removed.

One of the objections of our learned friend being thus easily got over, we think it better not to say much about the other, viz.—that the evidences of *his body* having undergone great alterations within his recollection are not so very *striking* as to bring about his concurrence in this doctrine—for perhaps, no matter how palpable may be the facts in this point, his vanity might blind him against conviction; for

Persuade a man against his will,
He's of the same opinion still.

H.

SERENADE.

(Waltz Air.)

FOR THE DUBLIN PENNY JOURNAL.

The twilight with sweetness is laden—is laden;
Too soft for expression, too blissful to bear—
Then come to thy window, sweet maiden, sweet maiden;
Dawn tarries to catch thy young smile on the air.

The lone hour is stealing,
Grey morn is unsealing
Its eyelid of beauty o'er forest and lawn;
From heaven's gate descending,
The sky-lark is ending

His love-labour'd song, with the glimmering dawn.
Then haste love, the daylight is breaking, is breaking;
The uplands appear in the pale smile of day—
Oh haste! for the world is awaking, awaking;
The daylight is breaking, and I must away.

J. U.